Association requesting, inter alia, for exemption from countervailing duty on specified amino acids used in poultry farming have been received. However, no representation to exempt the fodder additives from the levy of Central Excise duty has been received.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of above.

IMF's Measurement of Economy

3681. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Monetary Fund used a new method, i.e. purchasing power parity system, to measure on economy size;

(b) if so, at what position India stand on the new scale of measuretment; and

(c) what are its economic implications for India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The IMF in their study has discussed the use of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) based weights instead of market exchange rates for working out individual country weightage in global output. The study has used the survey data of International Comparison Programme (ICP) of the United Nations which have been published regularly.

(b) According to the new calculation, the Indian Economy would rank as the 9th largest in the World.

(c) Neither the IMF nor the World Bank have accepted the findings of this study as their official policy.

Insurance Claims for Beedi Leaves Lost

3682. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of discrimination between M/s. Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad and M/s. B. S. Sundaravadivel Mudaliar and Sons, Trichy in assessment of loss to stock of beedi leaves in open due to cyclone during May 1990 settlement at market value to the former and settlement at less than the actual expenditure input to the latter;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such discrimination in settlement;

(c) if not, whether the claim of B. S. Sundaravadivel Mudaliar & Son, Trichy is settled on market value?

(d) whether the Government propose to appoint an agreed expert insurance consultant to scrutinise if there is any variation in settlement and to sort it out; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

RBI Instructions to close down Unviable Branches of Public Sector Banks

3683. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has permitted public sector banks to close down these unviable branches;

(b) if so, what are the details of the instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the public sector banks;

(c) what are the details of branches of each of the public sector banks considered unviable;

(d) what are the reasons for which these branches of public sector banks have become unviable;

(e) what are the details of irregularities and losses incurred these branches during the year 1991-92, 1992-1993 and so far in 1993-94; and